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SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 7 December 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration of the Enlarged Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and OIC States Contributing Troops to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) on Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopted at Geneva on 6 December 1994.

I would appreciate it if you could kindly have this Declaration circulated as a document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 39, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

Annex

Declaration of the Enlarged Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Contributing Troops to the United Nations Protection Force on Bosnia and Herzegovina, Palais des Nations, Geneva, 6 December 1994

1. The Enlarged Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina at the level of Foreign Ministers and the Secretary-General and with the participation of OIC States contributing troops to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 6 December 1994.

2. The President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, His Excellency Alija Izetbegović, addressed the meeting.

3. The Foreign Ministers express their grave concern over the deteriorating situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina resulting from the rejection of the peace plan by the Serbian side and the fierce assault on the Bihać safe area and other regions of Bosnia and Herzegovina by the so-called Bosnian Serb and mostly Serb forces from the United Nations Protected Areas (UNPAs) across the border in the Republic of Croatia, which constitute a clear case of international aggression against this United Nations-designated safe area and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4. The Foreign Ministers call upon all States to reaffirm their commitment to respecting and supporting the political independence, territorial integrity, sovereignty and unity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. They reject any attempt to violate or erode them.

5. The Foreign Ministers are seriously concerned that the gap between the objective of the resolutions of the Security Council and the actual conduct of the UNPROFOR operations is increasingly eroding the Security Council's credibility in shouldering its responsibilities. It is fundamental that the Security Council should effectively address the deteriorating situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and end the continuing aggression of the Serbian forces, particularly those from the UNPAs in the Republic of Croatia.

6. The Foreign Ministers express their deep concern over the fact that the UNPROFOR authorities allowed the Serbs from the UNPAs in the Republic of Croatia to have at their disposal heavy weapons, helicopters and aircraft as well as internationally prohibited weapons, such as cluster bombs, napalm bombs and poisonous gases used for mass killing of civilians.

7. The Foreign Ministers express in the strongest terms their indignation with and condemnation of the vicious attack on the Bihać safe area and the merciless targeting of its civilian population by the Serbs from the UNPAs in the Republic of Croatia and the Bosnian Serbs. They are shocked by the lack of effective measures by the UNPROFOR Command to deter attacks against the safe area and the

flagrant violations of the internationally recognized border between the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia by the Croatian Serbs. It is their considered view that UNPROFOR is mandated to deter attacks, by force, if necessary, on the United Nations-designated safe areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina including Bihać.

8. The Foreign Ministers note that the assault on the United Nations safe area of Bihać has been carried out with the fuel supply received by the Croatian Serbs as well as military equipment, missile launchers, tanks, military specialists and volunteers from Serbia. Therefore, they stress that all goods crossing the borders between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including goods destined for the UNPAs in the Republic of Croatia, must comply strictly with the requirements of relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 820 (1993).

9. The Foreign Ministers express concern over the continuing siege of the cities of Bihać and Velika Kladusa which has resulted in the cut-off of basic utilities such as water, gas, food and medical supplies and call for an immediate lifting of the siege of Bihać and Velika Kladusa and free flow of humanitarian assistance for the Bihać region in order to alleviate the sufferings of the civilians.

10. The Foreign Ministers emphasize that there already exists within the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 770 (1992), 824 (1993), 836 (1993) and 959 (1994), the mandate to use force and to carry out air strikes. In this context, an urgent explanation and a full report should be made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the failure of UNPROFOR to fulfil its mandate, specifying in particular States that have prevented the Security Council from implementing its relevant resolutions.

11. The Foreign Ministers fully support a more effective role for UNPROFOR. They call upon the Security Council to augment the number of UNPROFOR troops to 35,000 and to reinforce it with heavy artillery and other means necessary to defend the territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina. They urge all countries to contribute troops to UNPROFOR to offset any eventual withdrawal of some contingents. They reaffirm the readiness of OIC States to provide additional forces to UNPROFOR and urge the Security Council to accept the offers already made by some OIC States in this regard.

12. The Foreign Ministers decide that the OIC Contact Group and troop-contributing States will urgently establish a working group (in New York) to evaluate current and future contributions to the United Nations-mandated forces, including: (a) to provide further contribution of both troops and resources; (b) to ensure the strengthening, if necessary, and implementation of the UNPROFOR mandate; (c) to investigate past shortcomings and failures; (d) to coordinate with other willing States, as well as with the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on matters of logistics, communications and financing, if some States decide to withdraw their personnel from UNPROFOR; and (e) to consider alternatives in assisting the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina through UNPROFOR, or other means consistent with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

13. The Foreign Ministers call for increased air support by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to UNPROFOR, including elimination of Serbian air defence systems, particularly those around United Nations protected zones that threaten not only NATO's operations but also airlift to Sarajevo and air-drop operations aimed at feeding the civilians in the exclusion and protected zones. They point out the need for such effective steps by NATO, as the Serb air and weapon facilities mainly threaten United Nations-mandated operations, in particular the enforcement by the United Nations of the "no-fly zone" over the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

14. The Foreign Ministers emphasize the imperative need of enhancing the participation of the OIC troop contributors within the UNPROFOR Command, as well as in the political decision-making process.

15. The Foreign Ministers reject and strongly oppose any suggestion to permit or legalize a confederal relationship between the Bosnian Serbs and Serbia and Montenegro, as this would violate and undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Even the consideration of such an idea is totally unacceptable for it would mean the legitimization of the consequences of ethnic cleansing, genocide and the acquisition of territory by force, lay the foundations for the dismemberment of a State Member of the United Nations, seriously undermine the already damaged credibility of the United Nations and constitute a betrayal of the principles of its Charter and international law.

16. The Foreign Ministers, being cognizant of calls for the convening of an international conference on Bosnia and Herzegovina, decided that they would support such a move only: (a) after the Pale Serbs accept the territorial arrangements as proposed by the five-nation Contact Group within a territorially integrated and sovereign Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina; and (b) if OIC Contact Group members and troop contributors are full participants in such a conference.

17. The Foreign Ministers express their disappointment that, despite their call for establishing a close, action-oriented relationship between the OIC Contact Group and the five-nation Contact Group, it has not yet been possible for OIC States to have a meaningful input in the deliberations of the five-nation Contact Group. They call for an urgent meeting at the Ministerial level between the five-nation Contact Group and the OIC Contact Group to consider ways and means to deal with the deteriorating situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

18. The Foreign Ministers reiterate the determination of OIC States to oppose the lifting of sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as any easing of sanctions until such time that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro): (a) recognizes the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders; (b) accepts the placement of United Nations Observers on the borders for effective monitoring; and (c) the implementation of the five-nation Contact Group peace plan, including full withdrawal from all occupied territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

19. The Foreign Ministers demand that the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina must be provided with all necessary means for self-defence to enable it to exercise individually or collectively its inherent right, as

recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and reiterate the readiness of the OIC countries to cooperate with all States Members of the United Nations that exhibit a willingness on their own initiative to provide the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the means for self-defence.

20. The Foreign Ministers reiterate that Security Council resolution 713 (1991), paragraph 6, does not legally and cannot morally apply to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and indicate their commitment to act accordingly. If resolution 713 (1991) is to be made applicable to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, then it should be specifically presented to the Security Council for a fresh vote with that objective.

21. The Foreign Ministers reiterate their strong support to the International war crime Tribunal and express their willingness to provide financial support to it both multilaterally and bilaterally.

22. The Foreign Ministers reaffirm that OIC member States will continue to respond to the humanitarian exigencies by supporting the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and in this context request the Secretary-General to identify modalities and propose to the forthcoming Islamic Summit appropriate measures for mobilizing and effective channelling economic and humanitarian assistance from OIC and other States to the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina. They also renew their commitment to assist in the rebuilding of the economic infrastructure of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to provide financial support for the procurement of the requirements of the Bosnian Government, as well as assist Bosnian firms operating abroad.

23. The Foreign Ministers welcome the participation of the high-level observer delegation of the Republic of Croatia, thus acknowledging its contribution to the achievement of peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They reaffirm their support to the Washington Agreements and call for their full implementation, pledging their support, as appropriate, to this process.

24. The Foreign Ministers share the view that mutual recognition of all States emerging from the former Yugoslavia should be urgently implemented as the final step terminating the tragedy in this region. They join other countries in inviting the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to recognize the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia within their internationally recognized borders.

25. The Foreign Ministers condemn the tendency on the part of some to appease the Serbian aggressor and remind the international community, particularly the major Powers, of the imperative need for establishing peace with justice in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

26. The Foreign Ministers regret the direct material and diplomatic support offered to the Serbian aggressors and the recent veto within the Security Council of a resolution designed to cut off fuel supplies for the forces attacking and besieging Bihać.

27. The Foreign Ministers recommend the inclusion of the Kingdom of Morocco and Indonesia as members of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

28. The Foreign Ministers recommend that the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference may consider the adoption of further appropriate measures in respect of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.